

GRASSLEY and CORNYN on the EB-5 reform bill. Senator CORNYN has worked very hard on this, Senator GRASSLEY has, and I have, and it was truly a bipartisan bill. It had widespread support of EB-5 stakeholders—those who responsibly welcomed changes to the program that would improve oversight and accountability.

Senator GRASSLEY and I have been working for years to reform the EB-5 visa program. We wanted to reduce the fraud that has occurred in several EB-5 projects, including one that occurred in my own State of Vermont.

This legislation—again, bringing Republicans and Democrats across the political spectrum together—reflects a careful and thoughtful compromise to both keep the EB-5 Program alive and curtail the worst abuses it has. There is actually only a small minority that wants to keep the program operating without these improved standards and oversight.

I wish they would be willing to come here and bring it up, vote it up or down, and be on the RECORD saying how they are going to vote, because opposing our effort on this is a vote that allows the EB-5 Program to lapse. It will have untold economic consequences throughout the communities that rely on the program for development projects, like those that the Senator from Texas just mentioned.

I wish that Senators had supported Senator GRASSLEY's consent request. But I will take a moment to say I thank Senator GRASSLEY for working with me over the years to find a bipartisan compromise to reform this. Hours have gone into that. He and Senator CORNYN and I and others have worked hard to have a compromise. I am sorry that the unanimous consent was objected to, especially as it means this will expire, and we won't have votes on improvements that could take place. I think it is a wasted opportunity.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. President, actually, if others are waiting, let me say something on another matter. It was 169 days ago that the world witnessed a violent insurrection take place in the seat of American democracy. All of us have the memory of rioters in combat gear who were armed with zip ties and smashing in the windows of the Capitol Building. Everybody in America remembers that. The images of the National Guard patrolling the Capitol grounds behind fences topped with barbed wire—those are going to be in the pages of textbooks of American history for generations to come.

Now, we didn't budget for an insurrection. In a democracy like ours, you should never have to. But the path of destruction from that day left the Capitol Police overburdened and underresourced. Purchases of critical equipment like respirators, ballistic helmets, protective gear, and training—those have been delayed to make up for these unanticipated costs. Efforts to implement the department's

wellness program to address mental health concerns following January 6 have been put on the back burner. And if we do nothing, the Capitol Police projects that doing nothing will deplete salary funds in August, and that would be a security crisis that we have created.

Now, 55 sworn officers have left the force since January 6. That is not counting those who died from January 6. That has depleted the force, which is already stressed. It is below what is needed to meet mission requirements. There is an urgent need to address the unanticipated costs associated with the attack on this building, including significant overtime pay, the need for hazard pay, and retention bonuses to keep dedicated officers from leaving the force.

The urgent need extends beyond the Capitol Police. Last week, the Secretary of Defense testified before the full Appropriations Committee and said that if we do not act, the National Guard will be forced to cut training in August as well. I met with the Green Mountain Boys, who came from Vermont to secure the Capitol after January 6. I thanked them for their service. I am sure many other Senators thanked the Guard from their States. But if we don't act, our visits and thanking them is nothing more than empty words for the men and women who put their lives on the line for our country.

And, finally, the trauma that day is shared by every member of the congressional community, from the Speaker of the House to the dedicated support staff in the Capitol—staff we rely on every day to do our work. It should not be lost on us that we weren't the ones who went to sweep up the shattered glass and scrub the floors and walls of this building on that day and throughout the night. It was the people who work here.

It should not be lost on us that during the darkest hours of the pandemic, following the insurrection, these public servants came to work, cleaned our offices, ensured our safety, the safety of our staff, and boarded up shattered windows and broken doors.

Now, we did not budget for both the pandemic and insurrection. We were forced to rob Peter to pay Paul to keep our congressional community safe and healthy. But now necessary legislative branch projects lack the funding to move forward. We ought to have the responsibility to address that.

It has been 169 days since January 6. It has been 169 days since Republicans and Democrats reconvened in this Chamber in bipartisan defiance of those who sought to overthrow democracy and the rule of law through mob violence.

But now, for 35 days, the House-passed emergency supplemental to address the security and the mental health needs of the January 6 insurrection and the lingering scars of the COVID pandemic has languished in the

Senate. And why? Because Senate Republicans have refused to begin negotiations on a bipartisan path forward.

So I am urging my colleagues: Begin these negotiations. The clock is ticking. My staff and I are—throughout the Fourth of July recess, we are—willing to meet and talk with anybody to get these negotiations going, because if we don't act, the Capitol Police is going to run out of funding in a very short time in August.

And what are we saying? We are turning our backs on those who fought and bled and died on that day to protect us and defend this building and everything it stands for. How can we possibly do that? We are going to be forcing the men and women of the National Guard to go without training that is necessary to achieve their mission, and we will be telling the women and men of the Capitol staff who support us: Thanks, but we don't support you.

That would be wrong. That goes against everything that I have learned in my years here in the Senate from both Republicans and Democrats.

The security supplemental would address the shortfalls. It would provide new resources for overtime, hazard pay, mental health services, retention bonuses, and new equipment and training for the Capitol Police, all of which is needed. It would fully reimburse the wounded men of the National Guard with costs incurred protecting the Capitol.

They were called. They came. They didn't say: Oh, are we going to get reimbursed?

They answered the call. Of course, they assumed that we would be responsible enough to reimburse them.

We also restored legislative branch funding that was taken to address the immediate needs of keeping our congressional community safe and healthy.

I have been ready to begin bipartisan negotiations. I believe if we begin these negotiations now, we could complete our work in the July session. My door is always open. It will be open throughout the July recess.

I yield the floor.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I rise once again in support of Jen Easterly's nomination to be Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, commonly referred to as CISA.

Yesterday, I came to the floor to urge my colleagues to swiftly confirm Ms. Easterly to lead CISA so she can get to work in strengthening our Nation's response to the recent onslaught of online attacks that have literally wrought havoc to our critical infrastructure, businesses, and even government.

With her more than three decades of service in the public and private sectors and her critical role in crafting vital cyber security recommendations as a member of the Cyber Solarium